

Amendments to the Abstract

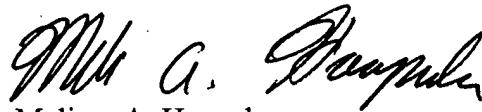
Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the following amended paragraph:

A method of updating a supply plan used to process customer requests in an available-to-promise (ATP) system. In one embodiment the method comprises updating a model of a supply chain process for one or more products sold by the ATP system and copying a current supply plan used by the ATP system to process customer requests to create a second supply plan. Thereafter, a first plurality of customer requests is received and orders from the requests are processed by the ATP system against the current supply plan while running the updated model of the supply chain process with the second supply plan as part of a process that creates a new supply plan. After the new supply plan is created, the new supply plan is synchronized with the old supply plan by synchronizing orders from the first plurality of customer requests scheduled against the old supply plan into the new plan while order promising continues against the old plan. The synchronizing process is stopped prior to synchronizing every one of the orders in the first plurality of requests into the new supply plan. Thereafter, all remaining orders from the first plurality of requests not synchronized during the synchronizing process are synchronized into the new supply plan while the ATP system temporarily stops promising orders. After the remaining orders from the first plurality of requests are synchronized, the old supply plan is replaced by the new supply plan so that the ATP system processes future customer requests against the new supply plan.

Appl. No. 10/612,257
Amdt. dated January 6, 2005
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa A. Haapala". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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